

4. Title: Medical Beliefs in Culture, Social Structure, Internal and External Group Relationships in North Thailand

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OBJECTIVE

To describe and analyze the relationships between culture, social structure, and behavior organized around concepts of health, illness and disease in a hill tribe, the S'Kaw Karen, in North Thailand. Further, to describe and analyze intergroup relationships with particular emphasis on the role played by concepts of health, illness and disease.

DESCRIPTION

See previous Annual Progress Reports for 1966, 1967 and 1968.

PROGRESS

Final report has been prepared of submission to the National Research Council of Thailand. This report covers the data from the following areas:

1. The Karen of Chiang Mai Province:
 - a. The Karen,
 - b. Karen residence in Thailand,
 - c. Socio—geographic background in central upland Chiang Mai,
 - d. The village,
 - e. Karen political structure.
2. The Village of Mae Tia Glo.
3. The Village of Non Krissu.
4. The General Structure of Upland Lowland Relationships:
 - a. Trade and exchange,
 - b. Wage labor and labor exchange,
 - c. The Si—so or Sajaa relationship,
 - d. Ritual and religious relationships,
 - e. The Karen view of their neighbors and of themselves in relation to their neighbors: The cognitive aspect of relationships,
 - f. The Meo.
5. The Medical System of the S'Kaw Karen:
 - a. Illness,
 - b. Causation of illness and the spirits,
 - c. The response to illness,
 - d. Non—spiritual causation of illness,
 - e. Concepts of prevention of illness.

Further analysis of data collected is underway and further publications are anticipated. No further data collection in Thailand is anticipated.